

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE DIGITAL CONTROL OF AN  
ELEMENT OF A PRINTING MACHINE, AND PRINTING MACHINE**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5           The invention relates to a method, apparatus and a printing machine (1) having a control device (8, 8', 8'', 8''') for the digital control of an element of the printing machine (1), an assignment (6, 6') of two non-coincident digital variables (2 and 2') being carried out.

          The error of such an assignment (6, 6') can be kept small in that,  
10       for successive assignments (6, 6'), an integer assignment (6, 6') of small steps (3) of a first variable (2) to a large step (3') of a second variable (2') is carried out in such a way that for each assignment (6, 6') the numerical ratio remains constant or is changed in such a way that the assignment error (4, 4') never reaches the width (5) of the smaller steps (3) of the first variable (2) in any assignment (6, 6').